



Talking Freight Seminars

Hear the latest on freight transportation trends and challenges in the 21st Century.

The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) Office of Freight Management and Operations and the Office of Planning host the "Talking Freight" seminars. The seminars are part of a broader Freight Professional Development Program aimed at providing technical assistance, training, tools, and information to help the freight and planning workforce meet the transportation challenges of tomorrow. The seminars are held on a monthly basis throughout the year and are open to all interested parties in both the public and private sectors. The schedule of planned seminars is on the reverse. **To register for the "Talking Freight" seminars, please go to http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/fpd/talking_freight.htm.**

Why dial in?

With limited travel budgets and busy work schedules, it has become increasingly more difficult for freight and freight planning practitioners to get needed information, training, and education to keep up to date with the latest trends, tools, and noteworthy practices in freight transportation. *The seminars provide a convenient and no-cost way for transportation practitioners to broaden their knowledge base and develop new skills to help them do their jobs better.* The topics are chosen based on suggestions made at various freight outreach events and during conversations with freight stakeholders.

Participants are also invited to register for the Freight Planning Listserv (www.fhwa.dot.gov/freightplanning) and visit the Peer-to-Peer Program Web site (www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/fpd/p2p). Both sites provide opportunities to exchange information and learn more about freight issues and trends.

How it works

The seminars are interactive and are held via teleconference and the Internet. All that is needed is a telephone and a 56K Internet connection. This format allows for extensive participation of freight stakeholders from across the country. Each seminar lasts 90 minutes, with 60 minutes allocated for presentations, and 30 minutes for audience Q&As. Through the use of Web conferencing, participants can view the speaker's presentation on their personal computer and hear the audio portion of the presentation by dialing into the assigned teleconference number.

The "Talking Freight" Web site provides details about each of the seminars and information about registration. The seminars are recorded and archived on the "Talking Freight" Web site as well. Once participants register for a particular seminar, they will receive an email with directions for logging on to the seminars.

We look forward to your participation and hope you find the "Talking Freight" seminars beneficial to your professional needs.

Date & Time	Topic	Description of Topic
January 21, 2009 1:00-2:30 pm ET	Surface Freight Transportation Responsibilities: Who Does What?	Hear about surface transportation roles and responsibilities of the agencies within the US DOT.
February 18, 2009 1:00-2:30 p.m. ET	Moving Size and Weight Enforcement to the 21st Century	The importance of technology-based tools in managing highway-based freight movements will be presented. Hear the important role that automated tools will increasingly play in truck enforcement programs and get updates on interesting research being conducted to advance the development and deployment of automated enforcement techniques.
March 18, 2009 1:00-2:30 p.m. ET	Freight Corridor Programs	Over the last several years one of the most commonly articulated issues relating to the United States transportation system has been the need to develop a national freight system or network of freight corridors. Unless capacity is expanded at key locations, freight movements will be subject to increased delay and decreased reliability, disrupting supply chains and increasing costs of American businesses to the detriment of global competitiveness and economic productivity. The freight transportation system that supports the economy knows no boundaries, as a large percent of the value and tonnage of freight moves across state, regional, national, or international boundaries. To successfully deal with this issue will require the United States to undertake new approaches to the nation's freight transportation system. Development of a coordinated network of national freight transportation corridors will be vital for the continued economic prosperity and competitiveness of the United States. In this session representatives from Canada, Mexico and the United States will discuss freight corridor programs that are currently underway and reveal best practices.
April 15, 2009 1:00-2:30 p.m. ET	National Freight Performance Measurement Data Dissemination Tool	A informational presentation on a website developed by the FHWA to provide State DOTs, MPOs, and university personnel engaged in transportation research access performance data for freight significant highways. Developed by ATRI and Virginia Tech, the website is currently in a BETA version and due to be fully operation in the June 2009 timeframe.
May 20, 2009 1:00-2:30 p.m. ET	Higher Productivity Trucks	Higher productivity trucks are the topic of discussion with the industry as well as with those on Capitol Hill these days. There are arguments on the side of productivity and greenhouse gas reductions. And, there are arguments of concern related to how well our roads and bridges will hold up. Hear discussions from the experts on the contribution of higher productivity trucks as well as the issues related to safety and infrastructure.
June 17, 2009 1:00-2:30 p.m. ET	Climate Change	Hear about the climate change study on the US Gulf Coast and the implications to our coastal assets. Learn about some strategies to address mitigation and adaptation and how you include this in planning functions.

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“Talking Freight” Web Site:

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